

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation
or Suspension of the Educator
Certificate of Donald R. Weyls,
Certificate 230099

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**ORDER OF
SUMMARY SUSPENSION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 14, 2007. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2005), the State Department of Education (Department) requested that the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Donald R. Weyls, certificate 230099, as a result of his arrest on October 30, 2007, in Summerville, South Carolina. Mr. Weyls was charged with three counts of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor and two counts of Enticing an Enrolled Child from Attendance in Public School as a result of allegations that he provided alcohol to two female students and persuaded a female student to leave school with him and have lunch with him off-campus. The Department has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of the allegations of misconduct against him, Mr. Weyls poses a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare of students. After considering the evidence presented by the Department, the State Board voted to summarily suspend Mr. Weyls' educator certificate until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The Department is directed to serve notice on Mr. Weyls of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Weyls holds a professional educator certificate and has two years of teaching experience. Mr. Weyls was employed by the Dorchester County School District Two (District) as a social studies teacher at Summerville High School in

Summerville, South Carolina. On October 25, 2007 and October 26, 2007, it is alleged that Mr. Weyls was involved in two incidents at the school with a female student whom he persuaded the student to leave the school campus with him in his car and have lunch with him off-campus. It is also alleged that Mr. Weyls asked the female student to lie about the incidents. Further, it is alleged that on September 29, 2007, Mr. Weyls provided a bottle of tequila to two sixteen year old students who had requested he purchase alcohol for them. The Superintendent placed Mr. Weyls on administrative leave on October 29, 2007, while the District conducted an investigation into this matter. On October 30, 2007, Mr. Weyls voluntarily resigned from his employment with the District in lieu of termination. On October 30, 2007, Mr. Weyls was arrested at the District office and charged with three counts of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor and two counts of Enticing an Enrolled Child from Attendance in Public School as a result of allegations that he provided alcohol to two female students and persuaded a female student to leave school with him and have lunch with him off-campus on two separate occasions. These allegations are based upon an investigation conducted by the Summerville Police Department. As a result of these allegations and subsequent arrest, the State Board finds Mr. Weyls poses a threat to the public health, safety and welfare of students and that emergency action is required.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, immorality, crime against the law of this State or the United States, any conduct involving moral turpitude and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (Supp. 2006). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2005), "If the agency finds that public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for

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revocation or other action." The State Board finds that emergency action is required as there is reason to believe that Mr. Weyls poses a threat to the public health, safety and welfare of students. Accordingly, the State Board summarily suspends Mr. Weyl's educator certificate until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: 
John E. Tindal
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
November 14, 2007